

Dear Parents and students,

All staff at Randwick Boys' High School hope you had a safe holiday. It was an unusual holiday but we do hope students were able to switch off from the coursework they had been provided digitally, at the end of Term 1.

As you are probably aware from the media reports, things in NSW Public Schools will change again in Term 2.

The NSW Government has issued a document to all schools: 'A Managed return to school'.

It is attached for your perusal. The document explains the 5 phases that will be implemented for the managed return to school for students. The dates that the phases will be implemented have not been finalised by the Department of Education, as yet.

What is definite and has been finalised is the following:

1. Term 2 begins with TWO school development days (Monday 27th and Tuesday 28th April). These are pupil free days to allow staff to undertake Professional Learning and to develop further online learning for our students.
2. Wednesday 29th April and onwards will see all Public Schools continue with Distance Learning (online). This is a continuation of Phase 0, that was implemented during the last two weeks of Term 1. During Phase 0, Schools are open for families who need it. Families are encouraged to keep their children at home wherever possible, with no student to be turned away. Students who attend school are supervised only, not in their regular classes. There will be no excursions or interschool activities.

During Phase 0, as stated in the attached document, you must continue to:

- Keep your child/children at home if possible
- Support your child/children to continue learning at home
- Communicate with RBHS via email and phone wherever possible
- Follow the health advice and keep your child/children home if they are unwell

Phase 0 will end at the end of week 2, Term 2.

3. From week 3, Term 2 all Public Schools will enter Phase 1 (Monday 11th May).

Phase 1 includes students being at school at least one day per week.

RBHS will have discretion as to which group of students attend on which particular day and this will be communicated to you once finalised. At this stage, there is no indication as to how long Phase 1 will last and when we will move to Phase 2. I assume it will be determined by the 'Covid-19 curve' and how NSW is tracking in terms of containment and the rate of infection in the community. It is anticipated that all NSW students will increase the number of days at school before the end of Term 2, under the advice of NSW Health.

Once we are aware of further information, we will inform you, our school community.

Of utmost importance is obviously the continued education of your son/s and the wellbeing of your son/s. Everyone realises that self-isolation is extremely difficult for High School students, especially as they love the social interaction with each other, other year groups and their teachers. We are hoping to have students return as soon as it is safe and practicable to do so.

Year 12 students

Year 12 have already endured the most disrupted year of their education. I know they are most anxious, as are their parents and teachers, to return to school and complete their final year of high school. It is VITAL that Year 12 students realise that the Premier has already stated that 'No Year 12 student will be disadvantaged', when it comes to the HSC and enrolling in University (as most of our students wish to do).

Whatever the next few terms look like for Year 12 students, they must remember that in 2021, universities are looking to support as many students as possible, who are seeking university entry. They are not going to disadvantage the class of 2020. How universities determine which students attend which courses will be interesting. SOME Universities have already started early entry procedures for current Year 12 students. Others are waiting to publish how they plan to do so. What is paramount is that these places will need to be filled and all Year 12 students should ensure they continue to pursue their goals for further education. It is imperative that Year 12 students continue to strive for the highest marks possible. Assessments, revision, note taking, classwork, coursework, homework, all need to be completed to the best of their ability.

Over the next two weeks, we will inform Year 12 of the assessments for Science and Mathematics that did not take place during the Year 12 assessment block at the end of Term 1.

We also have no definitive information regarding Half-yearly Reports for all students. Once we are instructed by the Department of Education regarding Reporting requirements, we will inform you, our school community.

Today, we received a delivery of hand sanitiser. We will be instructing all students and staff to wash their hands regularly, use the sanitiser and adhere to social distancing requirements during Term 2. Also, the Department of Education has informed all schools that they will be receiving additional cleaning. The additional cleaners will be onsite during the day to assist with keeping our school as clean as possible.

This week, I will work with the school Executive and staff to organise and structure Randwick Boys' High School's Phase 1 managed return for students. I will communicate the structure as early as possible to give families enough time to make arrangements.

The website <https://education.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/advice-for-families> has been updated and may have information that interests you.

I hope this information is helpful to all in our community. Should any parent or student require clarification, please feel free to contact me via email or phone.

Term 2 will be challenging; however, with your support, I am confident that we can work through all issues as a school community.

Thank you,

Lance